

HOUSE RESOLUTION 82
By Stanley

A RESOLUTION To congratulate the administration, faculty, students and parents of Richland Elementary School upon the selection of the "Buds to Blossoms" program by the State Board of Education as an exemplary program.

WHEREAS, The daily involvement of parents in the education of their children and with the schools and educators of their communities has been shown to have a profound positive effect upon the attainment of positive educational outcomes for their children; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly is pleased to recognize those parents, schools, administrators and classroom teachers who have joined hands to promote the positive involvement of parents in their children's education, both at home and in their local schools; and

WHEREAS, One such outstanding entity is Richland Elementary School's "Buds to Blossoms"; the Parent Involvement Committee of the State Board of Education has recently selected it as an award-winning program; and

WHEREAS, Richland Elementary's stated mission is "to instill students with a love and desire to become lifelong learners"; the school has been greatly successful in accomplishing that mission, earning numerous honors such as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

designation, the 9th Congressional District Parental Involvement Award, the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, and the Memphis City Schools Silver Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, “Buds to Blossoms” builds on Richland Elementary’s significant strengths in order to address one of the school’s few weaknesses; despite a strong record of attendance overall, the school’s administration has identified an absenteeism problem among inner-city students; and

WHEREAS, The award-winning program pairs a parent or community volunteer with the family of a student with a persistent absenteeism problem; this revolutionary initiative provides a support network for the students and their families and builds upon the success of Richland’s innovative Richland Involving Parents in Education (RIPE) program, which was developed in 1997; and

WHEREAS, The State Board of Education believes that Richland’s “Buds to Blossoms” is an exemplary parent involvement program, which has provided a positive element in improving that school’s climate and has made a favorable impact on student learning; and

WHEREAS, On April 26, 2001, the Richland “Buds to Blossoms” program was formally recognized by the State Board of Education in Nashville and received a \$1,000 cash award and a commemorative plaque as the top parental involvement program in its region; and

WHEREAS, At that same ceremony, the initiative was selected from among other exemplary programs in Tennessee for recognition as the most exceptional program for 2001, earning a \$10,000 grant to support the admirable work of “Buds to Blossoms”; and

WHEREAS, Having received statewide recognition, the program is sure to draw great attention as a model to improve public education in this State and our Nation; and

WHEREAS, The outstanding efforts and commitment to education manifested by all involved in the creation and operation of Richland Elementary School’s “Buds to Blossoms” are worthy of this body’s praise and admiration; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we congratulate the good people associated with Richland Elementary School's "Buds to Blossoms" upon its selection as an exemplary program by the State Board of Education and thank all parents, school administrators, classroom teachers, students and others involved in the program's success for their dedication to the welfare and education of the youth of this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish for each of them all the best in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.